



REVELATION SERIES

The Seven Letters

Sardis & Philadelphia:

Two Churches/Two Destinies

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 03.01.15

Big Idea: Your destiny and the destiny of LifeSpring Church can either be one of slow death or an open door to a great future.

Sardis: The Dying Church Revelation 3:1-3 ESV

"And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

1 "I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. **2** Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. **3** Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

Philadelphia: The Church of the Open Door Revelation 3:7-8

7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.

8 "I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

APPLICATION: Choose your destiny:

You may pretend you're okay when actually you're dying on the inside. (1-2)

Wake up or God's judgment will come when you least expect it. (3)

God has set before you and LSC an open door. (8)

It only takes a little bit of faith to not deny Christ. (8)

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Sardis & Philadelphia: Two Churches / Two Destinies

Sardis: Dying Church; Philadelphia: Church of the Open Door
Revelation 3:1-13

Your destiny and the destiny of LSC can be either one of a slow death or an open door to a great future

Diagnosis Describe something that is alive, but is in the process of dying. What does a dying church look like? 3:1
What does it mean to have "soiled clothes" as a Christian? 3:4

Prescription What will revitalize a dying church? 3:2-3

Note: The word Wake up is literally "Gregory"
We get the word "steroid" from Strengthen

Have you ever gotten an "incomplete" on a school paper? What was that like? What does it mean when God writes "Incomplete" on your life?

What are the consequences of not being revitalized? 3:3

Consider the praise in 3:4-6. Would Jesus say this about you/ LSC?

Open our Eyes What does it mean to have an open door and what kind of authority do we have in opening and closing doors? 3:7-8

What are some open doors for you, your family, and LSC?
Compare this to John 4:34-38; Colossians 4:2-6;

What remedy does God give to those who have little strength (dunamin)?
3:8-9 Read Romans 8

Claim the Promises What are the promises the Lord give to His faithful followers and what do they mean? 3:10-13

Apply It What are the keys to remain revitalized and walk through open doors?